Trade Agreement with Japan and Russia

†906. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have signed/going to sign any bilateral trade agreement with Japan and Russia; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In so far as Russia is concerned the Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation between India and the Russian Federation signed in 1992 provides the basic framework for Indo-Russian trade and economic cooperation. The Government of India and the Government of Japan signed an agreement on commerce in 1958.

One code name for two operations

907. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether code name "VIJAY OPERATION" was given to the operation of Indian Army carried out to liberate Goa in December, 1961;

(b) whether the same name "VIJAY OPERATION" was also given to repel the attack of Pakistani Army in Kargil Sector, a few years back; and

(c) if so, reasons for giving one code name?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The Indian Army operation in Goa in 1961 as well as in Kargil in 1999 were accorded similar name, "OPERATION VIJAY". The similarity in the names of the two operations is a matter of coincidence.

Letter from a Minister regarding Denel deal

908. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry had received any communication dated June, 10, 2004 forwarded by Smt. Renuka Chowdhary, the then Minister of Tourism,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

containing nine pages document prepared by some senior officers of the army against Denel, a South Africa firm who was trying to sell artillery to India Army;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of officers who prepared that documents; and

(c) what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir, a letter was received attaching certain documents.

(b) The said letter contained perceived "serious anomalies and non-compliance of laid down procedures" in procurement of 155 mm Tracked and Wheeled SP guns. It is not known as to who had prepared the aforesaid documents.

(c) The issues raised in the aforesaid communication have been examined in consultation with the Army HQ. Notably, due to certain allegations against M/s Denel in some other cases of procurement during the year 2002, further processing of the cases with M/s Denel has been put on hold.

Compensation for vacating extra spectrum for telecom providers

909. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the defence Ministry has sought Rs. 1,235 crore in compensation from Government to vacate extra spectrum for telecom providers;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Ministry was willing to shift to another band, but, Government had not provided Rs. 345 crore in compensation for vacating spectrum; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Upgradation of defence communication network and reviewing its spectrum requirement is a continuous process. Each proposal is examined